

SPEAKER: As the Chair understands the proposition Senator DeCamp's bill would make legal as defined by the bill a lottery in the state of Nebraska. He is proposing now, an amendment which instead of this bill, his proposal of this bill being the law of the state of Nebraska, that the issue of a lottery be put to a vote of the people. That is his amendment. Is that clarifying it?

SENATOR DE CAMP: I'll clarify it further if it will help you sir.

SPEAKER: It certainly would.

SENATOR DE CAMP: Well several years ago the people of Nebraska voted on the whole issue of lotteries, bingo, and everything else and they put it into the constitution that these were legal. Now one of the provisions is that it be used for non-profit or in other words or a...a...government or charitable work. Any profit. So we right now, this legislature right now has the authority to set up a state lottery and that is the original intention of my bill. However, because of certain reservations several Senators have here about what the people really want, this would put on the ballot the question, "Do you favor Nebraska having a lottery or are you opposed to it". Now let us assume that 65% voted no, we are opposed to it, then this legislature would know the sentiment of the people on this particular issue and they would very likely not be passing any lottery bills next year or in the foreseeable future. However, if the people voted 62% in favor of a lottery and said yeah we would like to see a lottery operated by the state. Then this legislature would have an expression of the people that maybe they want it and then this legislature next year could or could not depending upon what you 49 people want, pass a lottery bill and set up a state lottery. What I am doing is interjecting you might say the intermediate step of getting the sentiment of the people before I ask you to commit yourselves or whether you want a lottery. That is what the amendment does and I would ask you to support it.

SPEAKER: Senator DeCamp now have you closed? Senator DeCamp has closed. I will permit questions, rather a...a...or no other statements. He has closed. Senator Whitney. Please turn your light off if you don't want to ask questions. Senator Maresch.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, members of the legislature, Senator DeCamp would you yield? We do have lotterys now permitted right? For community improvement.

SENATOR DE CAMP: Under the constitution of the United States.

SENATOR MARESH: No under law....

SENATOR DE CAMP: I mean of the state of Nebraska, that is very true.

SENATOR MARESH: No under law. Senator Carpenter had a bill a number of years ago allowing for community improvement to have lotteries, is that right?

SENATOR DE CAMP: Well that was done, if it was done it was done under the of a constitutional amendment passed earlier. I think that was Senator Carpenter's Constitutional amendment.

SENATOR MARESH: The communities do have the right to.....